

SWAN RIVER VALLEY



THE GARDEN OF
THE CANADIAN WEST.



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SWAN RIVER VALLEY



THE GARDEN OF
THE CANADIAN WEST.

Published by Authority of the
SWAN RIVER VALLEY BOARD OF TRADE

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The Swan River Valley

"There be three things," says Bacon, "which make a nation great and prosperous: a fertile soil, busy workshops, and easy conveyance for man and beast from place to place."

Although it is but eight years since the Swan Valley was a land unknown, "a waste heritage," in so far as the white man was concerned, these three essentials enunciated by Bacon are, to-day, combining to make it a lively competitor for the coveted title "The Garden Spot of Manitoba." In profligacy of resources it is unexcelled and only awaits a fuller combination of capital and labor to transform them into commodities desired the world over.

School houses, banks, churches, post-offices, elevators, hospitals, saw mills, grist mills, railroads and prosperous villages have sprung up like genii from earthen pots, where only last year or the year before, the moose, mink, marten and beaver held undisputed sway. The Indian with his pipe of peace has everywhere fallen back for the colonizing Britisher and American with his piece of pipe.



A NATIVE PRODUCT OF THE SWAN RIVER VALLEY

The Lay of the Land

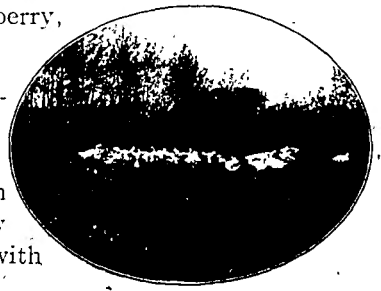
The Swan River Valley is 70 miles long by 30 to 35 miles wide. Because it is sheltered on the south by the Duck Mountains and on the north and west by the Porcupine Mountains, the blizzards of winter, or hot blighting winds of summer such as prevail on the prairie lands, are totally unknown in the Valley. Its proximity to the great lakes—Manitoba, Winnipeg and Winnipegosis—tend to keep the air pure and bracing. Miasmatic troubles are unknown. A man does not contract consumption or fever, nor a horse the heaves. We have no snakes, earthworms or potato-bugs, and very few mosquitoes. In truth, they were wise men who came here from the East.

Because workmen are passing to and fro from the lumber camps, and because of the Doupkash colony nearby in Saskatchewan, the labor problem does not press so heavily here as in other parts of the province. The proximity of the lumber camps is also a superlative advantage to the incoming homesteader, in that he can earn sufficient money with his team during the winter months to buy seed for the spring sowing and to tide him over till the grain is reaped and threshed.

Timber is plentiful for fuel, fencing and building. The country abounds with rivers and streams. The water is pure, sweet, clear as crystal, hard enough for drinking and soft enough for washing. Doubtless, in the future, the river power will be used to generate electricity and for lighting purposes, transportation and general farm work.

In fruitage the Swan Valley is the Goshen of Manitoba. It is a land of plenty. The sumptuous sweet-blooded strawberries exported from the Valley are eagerly sought after, and recall the wisdom of the essayist who said: "Doubtless God might have made a better berry than the strawberry, but doubtless God never did."

Poultry raising, dairying, the cultivation of bees, the production of vegetables and small fruits are being pursued with enthusiasm and profit. Gentlemen from the British Isles are particularly interested and bring good methods with them.



Mixed Farming



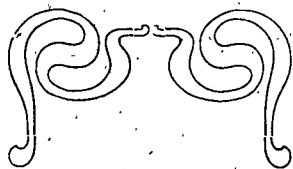
A BEAUTY SPOT NEAR SWAN RIVER TOWN

The Valley is represented by local men in both the Provincial and Dominion Parliaments.

The Canadian Northern Railway passes through the Valley. When this road is completed to the Hudson Bay, that huge inland sea, containing everything from salmon and herring to whale and walrus, and whose waters are destined to float the grain, gold, and timber of our North and West, the Valley will find itself at the head of the country, and what is to-day free or cheap land will then top the market.

The twentieth century belongs to Western Canada, "Our Lady of Plenty." Canada, the fertile, opulent, beautiful, beloved, God's good gift to a tired, teeming world; the new promised land running with peace and plenty! Canada, where the sweltering millions of the old land who are slaves to anvil, bellows, and forge, may loosen, halt, and regather their dreams, and where "as princes" they may dwell in the land.

It is because we believe no part of the Dominion offers greater attractions for the investment of capital, large or small, or for the expenditure of intelligent labor than the Swan River Valley we purpose herewith to append the following details for enquiring or intending immigrants:—





FARM OF E. WOODARD, THUNDER HILL.



A. J. Cotton's 1000 Acres of Wheat

AGRICULTURE

Its Realities and Possibilities in the Swan River Valley

Swan River Valley is known throughout the Canadian West and the Eastern Provinces and United States as one of the best grain producing districts the settlers have yet found. The commercial travellers and representatives of the various implement agencies, who do a thriving business in their respective lines throughout the thriving towns of our valley are all unanimous in the highest praise of our realities and possibilities along the agricultural line. No district in the West has made such rapid and substantial progress for the short time that has elapsed since the first settlers began their settlement duties, as soon as the government survey passed the preliminary stage.

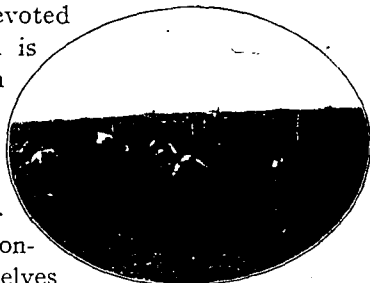
By our altitude, sheltered position, gently rolling land, first class soil, well-drained by the numerous rivers, well watered and of good quality; also the geographical position relative to the mountains, lakes and rivers, assurance of sufficient rainfall; together with our mild climate, the settlers of the older districts saw at once the highest agricultural advantages could be obtained in the Swan River Valley. Here the settler came and secured homesteads and railway land and here made agriculture the chief pursuit. Although the settlement of our valley is so recent yet the realizations have been beyond our expectations. The possibilities are great and much has been accomplished in a short time. The progress made in growing grain has been wonderful. The yields have been remarkable. Last year (1906)



HARVESTING SCENE, SWAN RIVER VALLEY

in export, seed, feed and home consumption, the yield in the aggregate will figure up to the grand total of about 990,000 bushels. This certainly is a record that every settler in the valley is proud of.

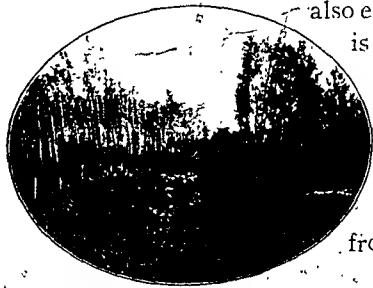
Our climatic conditions are such that winter wheat will soon form a large proportion of acreage devoted to grain, and the quality of this grain is superior and the yields that have taken place proves beyond a doubt that the growing of winter wheat has come to stay, and the farmers are elated over the bright prospects in store for them.



Mixed Farming

South, east and north of Swan River conditions are to be found which in themselves mark out certain localities in those directions as eminently fitted for stock raising. Abundance of hay, water and shelter are to be found in close proximity to land high enough for growing coarse grains and also affording throughout the year that diversity of pasture so essential to obtain the best and quickest returns for the money invested.

Shelter, so necessary during our severe winter, can be procured at a minimum of cost, either by location among timber and feeding in the open, or by building stables of logs and poles. In such districts the run is good and not likely to be interfered with or curtailed for some time to come. The quality of hay is also excellent and in ordinary years the supply is unlimited and at all times sufficient.

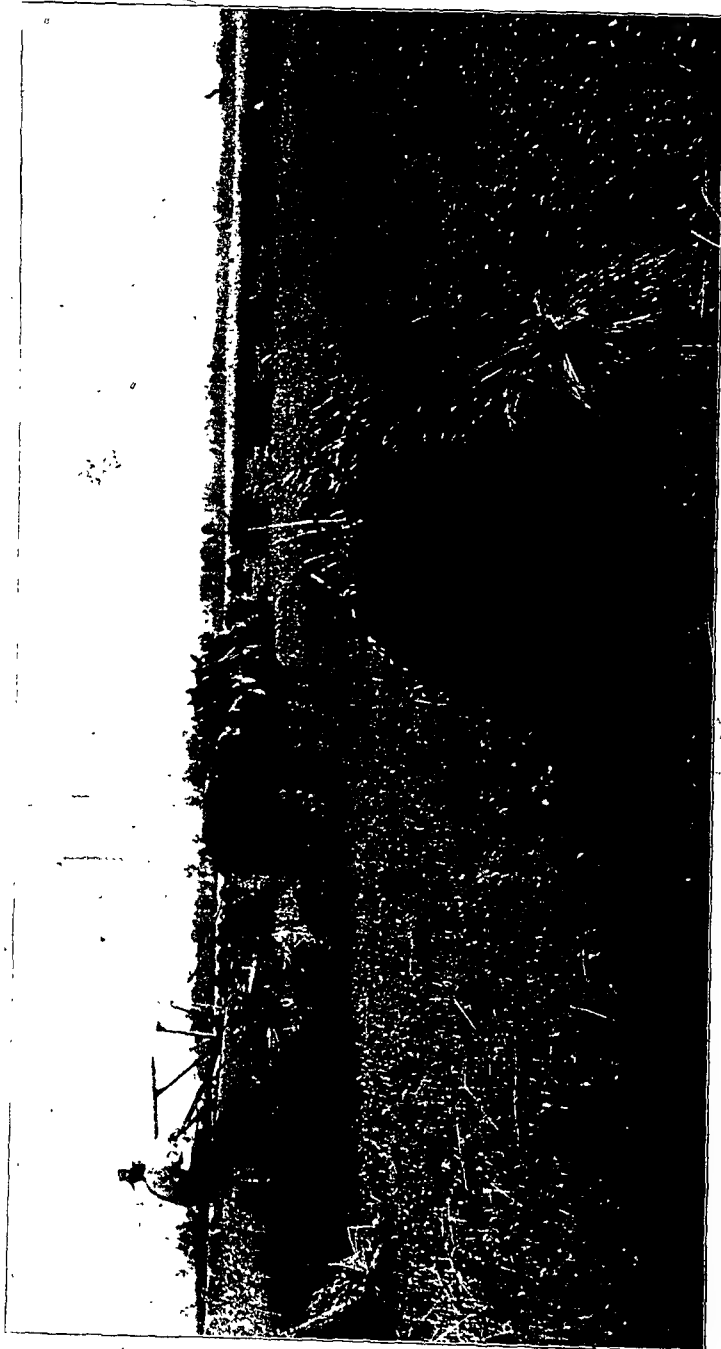


On the Road to Bowsman

In no case, whether south, east or north, would the rancher be far from the conveniences of life, or from a point where he could get his necessary supplies, or, what is more important still, from market.

At the time of writing, a very substantial market in addition to the local and the Winnipeg, has become available in supplying the lumber camps to the north, and as the industry here is merely in its infancy, future development in this line promises well.

Nor would the rancher have far to go to obtain good blood to keep up the standard of his herd. In the valley are to be found farmers who are making a specialty of this line of work. John



HARVESTING SCENE ON D. R. MCKAFFEE'S FARM, SWAN RIVER

Kennedy, J. Lockhart, D. R. McHaffie and J. W. Robson, M.P.P., raise pure-bred Shorthorns, and J. P. Jones, pure-bred Galloways.

Room there is in abundance. Diversity of pasture, first class hay, good water, necessary shelter, proximity to supplies and choice of three markets, all go to make parts of this valley ideal, and consequently profitable for participation in the stock raising industry. The field is open awaiting you. Come and share our prosperity!

Among the many other natural advantages of Swan River district, is that of the large amount of timber in and adjacent to the Valley. Not only is there plenty of timber conveniently situated and suitable for the requirements of the homesteader,

but there are also large tracts of timber lands that are now being operated by the various lumber firms and mill owners. The labor required and the money expended in these operations are now very important factors in the general development and commercial expansion of the Swan River district.



Saw Mill

The different lumber firms which are now operating in the district are as follows:

The McCutcheon Co., who own large limits about five miles south of Minitonas Village. This company cut and manufacture about three million feet annually.

The Durban Lumber Co., who own and operate limits in the Duck Mountains, immediately south of the town of Swan River. This company expect to take out a big cut this winter.

The Ashdown & Bossons Co. own and operate limits on the Swan River. Their logs are brought down the Swan River and sawn and manufactured in Swan River Town, where their saw and planing mills are situated. This firm expect to take out three million feet this winter, and will be the means of supplying labor for a considerable number of men, and distributing a large amount of money in wages, supplies etc., in the town.



J. W. ROBSON'S 100 ACRES OF WHEAT—5000 BUSHELS

Another firm operating is that of Caverly Sons. Their limits are situated a few miles south-west of Bowsman Village. They have a well equipped mill and expect to manufacture about three million feet this year.

Mutchenbacher Bros., who own extensive limits a short distance to the north of the valley. They have a large well equipped saw and planing mill, and manufacture from five to six million feet annually.

In addition to the above named firms, there are also a number of portable mills operating in the district, who are for the most part engaged in cutting and manufacturing the logs taken out by the farmers of the district.

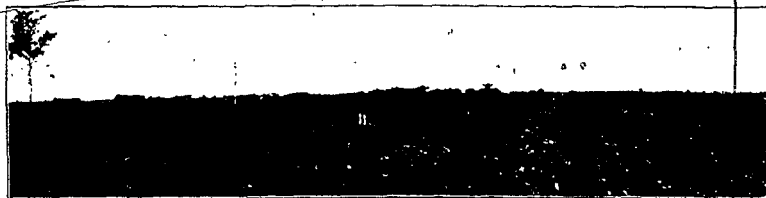
The Fishing Industries of Swan River

The fishing industry is beyond all doubt one of the greatest resources of Northern Manitoba.

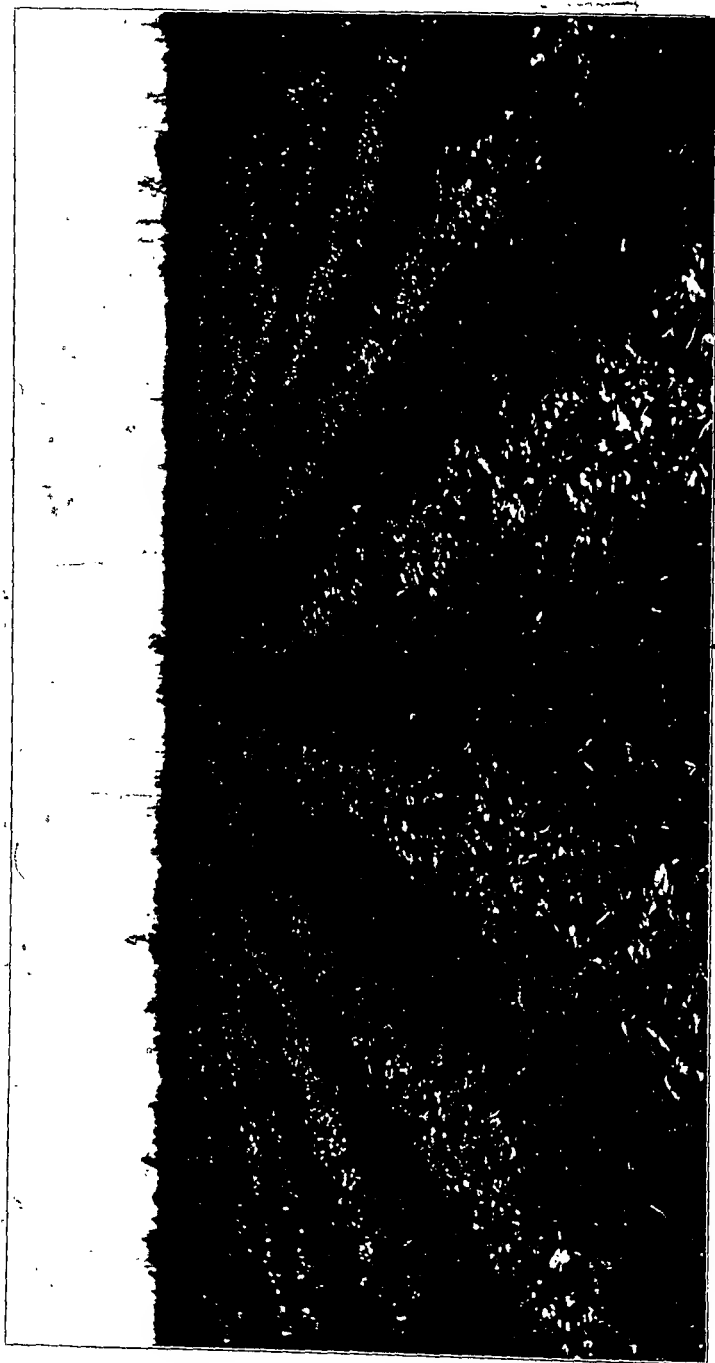
At the date of writing there are some fifty car loads of whitefish, sturgeon and pickerel stored on the ice of the waters of Lake Winnipegosis, Moose and Cedar Lakes, while some eighty teams are employed in hauling these fish to Mafeking, the Pass Mission and Winnipegosis, Manitoba, thus giving employment to hundreds of the residents of this part of the province.

This enormous catch is all the product of local fishermen, residents of this country, and are disposed of to Hugh Armstrong, exporter of fish, and the Northwest Fish Co., who in turn ship them to New York, Buffalo, Detroit, St. Paul, Minneapolis, Montreal, Toronto and other eastern and southern points. Prices this season to the fisherman are, $5\frac{1}{2}$ cents for whitefish per lb., $3\frac{1}{2}$ cents for pickerel, $10\frac{1}{2}$ cents for sturgeon, $1\frac{3}{4}$ cents for jackfish and $4\frac{1}{2}$ cents for trout.

It will readily be seen that this is a vast addition to resources of this part of the province of Manitoba, and will be one of the chief industries of this country for many years to come.



A Group of Purebreds, Swan River Valley



TWENTY ACRES OF STRAWBERRIES, BOWSMAN



J. Becker's Farm in the Swan River Valley

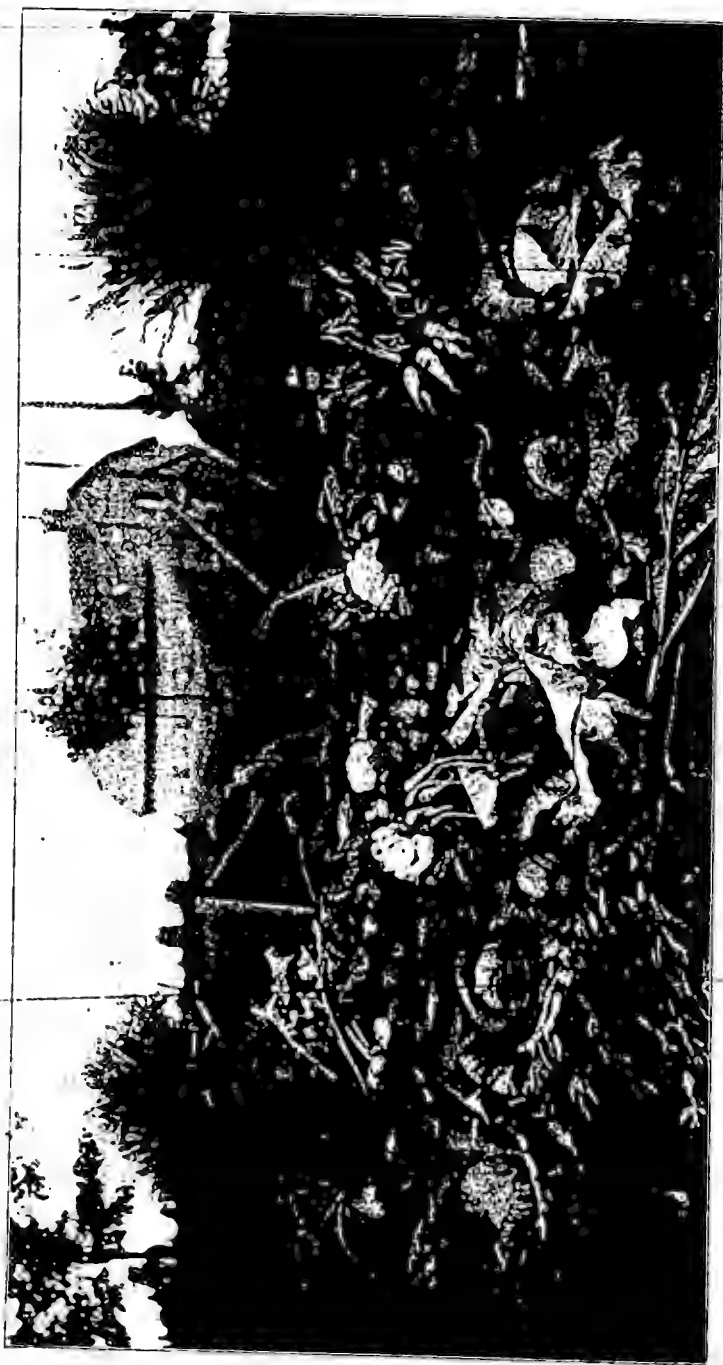
Native Fruits of Swan River Valley

Nature with a lavish hand has remembered our valley with a bountiful supply of wild fruits. Almost every variety found in the west grows here in nature's wild state, although some of the kinds may not produce every season, yet in bearing are very productive and excellent flavor.

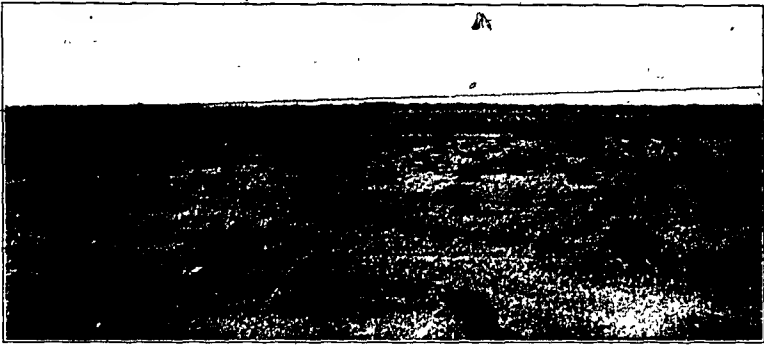
The following are a number of the different varieties that are found in the several locations. Black currants, red currants, gooseberries, strawberries, raspberries, saskatoons, low-bush cranberries, high-bush cranberries, red-sand cherries, black (choke) cherries, haw apples, wild plums.

Black currants are remarkable for their size and flavor and abundant bearing, and grow along the river flats. Red currants seem to grow around springs and along small streams. Gooseberries are quite prolific. Strawberries are very hardy and persistent in growth, and seem to cover the high ground like a network, and a large per cent. are large luscious berries and profuse bearers. Raspberries are plentiful along the river flats, and on elevations do well anywhere, and are an abundant crop. Saskatoons are not plentiful every year, but some seasons are abundant and the finest of the kind I have seen. Low-bush cranberries are a luxury and not plentiful, but are certainly delicious and make excellent preserves. High-bush cranberries are very plentiful and large bearers. Red-Sand Cherries are not plentiful every season, but have seen some fine bluffs of them that grew remarkably fine berries for size and flavor. Black (choke) cherries are plentiful every year and mild in flavor.

Wild plants are scarce; with such a variety of wild fruits from June to November, the farmer's family shares in the gathering of this harvest, and are loud in their praises of the luxuries that nature has so bountifully provided.



SPECIMEN OF OUR VEGETABLES IN SWAN RIVER VALLEY



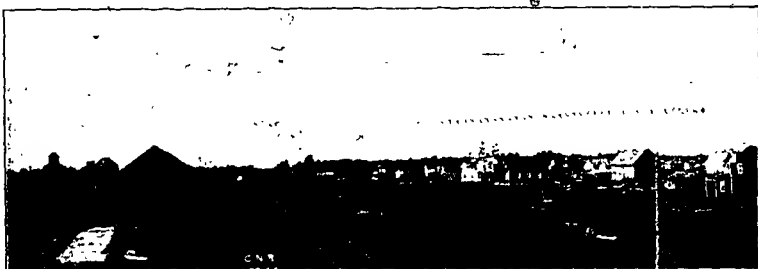
One of Our Scrub Farms, Thunder Hill

Horticulture In The Swan River Valley

As a field for the production of vegetables, the Valley may be said to be an ideal one. It is well sheltered from high winds and enjoys a mild and somewhat humid climate. Slight autumn frosts work less havoc to tender plants here than they do on the more exposed prairies with their drier atmosphere to the south of us.

The soil, a rich clay loam, originally heavily timbered, is extremely rich in potash, hence roots and all hardy vegetables grow luxuriously. Carrots, parsnips, beets, potatoes, peas, beans, etc., grow to enormous sizes. We have frequently grown cabbages weighing eighteen to twenty-five pounds, such without manure or special cultivation.

Cucumbers and similar vines do well as a rule. Early corn matures every season. We have the same seed continuously since coming to the Valley seven years ago. Large crops of green tomatoes are grown, but only the earliest varieties mature on the bushes.



Swan River—Watch It's Grow

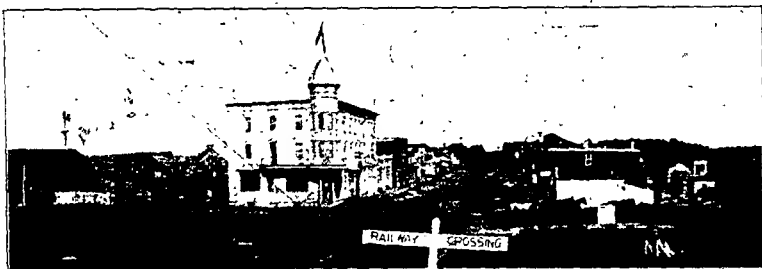
Trade and Commerce of Swan River

In a comparatively new district such as the Swan River Valley, trade and commerce is generally good and more speedy returns for investment are realized, since competition is not half so keen as in older settled points, and the increasing prosperity of the settlers warrants a considerable expenditure not only for necessities of life, but also for the luxuries.

In an older province and district, settlers in general have long since procured those articles and effects which are of common use in the management of a home. With settlers of a new part of the country the case is different. Every thing has to be bought from the start and there is always a steady demand for staple lines of merchandise. One of the most important assets of this Valley is that of the timber, which is plentifully scattered throughout the valley and affords an unfailing and an astonishingly cheap supply of good fuel to the inhabitants of the country and towns. In view of the fuel stringency existing elsewhere, the importance of this asset cannot be too much emphasized.

At many points along the Swan River there is first class water power which could be profitably utilized in the running of mills and manufacturing plants and any business concern which could utilize the water power and the supply of wood at the same time would be at a light expense in the production of their articles of manufacture.

The two lines of business which have taken the strongest hold on the community are the hardware and general store lines.



Swan River—continued

In the village of Swan River we have the firm of Ashdown & Bossons, which engages also in lumbering, and that of the Morse Hardware and Lumber Co. which has two outside branches, one at Kenville and the other at Benito.

There are also several firms at Minitonas in this business, and all are progressing, as is shown by the regular enlargement of the stores of the owners.

The other lines of industry and manufacture are those which one would expect to find in a district where the demands are for merchandise which is needed for the existence of the community. They are all doing well and a failure in business is very rare indeed.

The amount of freight coming to the villages of Swan River and Minitonas is phenomenal when one considers their size and population. It is a good criterion of the business done and of the demand for manufactured goods.

The banking facilities are of the best, not only in the number of banks doing business, but in the standard of stability at which each has arrived. The Bank of Commerce has branches at Swan River, Kenville, Durban, and Benito. The Bank of Toronto at Swan River and Minitonas, and the Royal Bank of Canada at Durban. These banks are all chartered with deposits secured by the Dominion Government. Under such circumstances it is an easy thing for a farmer who deserves any credit to get the necessary assistance he may find need of. Moreover, as the banks advance money on bills of lading of grain, this fact goes much to allay the stringency which



THOS. JOHNSON'S FARM—SWAN RIVER VALLEY

occasionally occurs on account of a car shortage or a delay in getting returns. From this advantage the general public also reaps the usual benefits.

In Swan River Village there has been running for some time a first class milling plant owned and operated by the Swan River Milling Company, and there are also two elevators, one operated by the Export Elevator Co., the other by the British America Elevator Co. There are also elevators at Kenville, Durban, Benito and Minitonas, but their capacity is not adequate to the grain output.

The sash and door factory of Messrs. Ashdown and Bossons is another industrial concern located in the village. This firm having also a large lumber mill there which converts the logs from their limit into the manufactured lumber of all kinds.

The cement block industry is merely beginning as yet, but there is a good field of operations for anyone who could manufacture the blocks and construct dwellings and stores from them.

Brick is manufactured at both Durban and Minitonas and also by the Doukhobors, and those who are competent to pass judgment on the finished product speak highly of it.

Railway Facilities

In the matter of railroad accommodation, the Swan River Valley compares very favorably with the older portions of the province.

The Prince Albert Branch of the Canadian Northern Railway runs through the valley, giving at present a tri-weekly service to Winnipeg with sleeping cars attached to all passenger trains. From Swan River, a branch line runs south-west to the boundary of the province called the Canadian Northern Railway Thunder Hill Branch, and is now being surveyed to Rosthern, Saskatchewan. The Valley, thus has a railway running the entire length and a branch starting about its centre and running at an angle to the southern limits.

This spring, it is the intention of the Company to inaugurate a daily-fast express from Winnipeg to Prince Albert and run dining-cars on all trains.

The Hudson's Bay Railway is now in the course of construction, starting from a point 70 miles north-west of Swan River

on the Prince Albert Branch. When this is completed, the railway running through the Valley will form the main line of the Hudson's Bay Railway and the farmers living on this line will have a choice of routes in the shipment of their products, either to England via the Hudson's Bay, or east to Halifax.

The Grand Trunk Pacific's surveyors, recognising the importance of the Valley, have been here looking over the ground with a view of running a branch through the Valley from their main line which runs to the south.

Sport and Game.

While feathered game is not quite so plentiful in Swan River Valley as in the early days of its settlement, big game seem to have suffered no decrease in numbers, but seems, on the other hand, to be on the increase.

There is not any part of the west where finer sport can be had among the prairie chicken and partridge than here. Any man who can shoot is reasonably sure of getting his daily limit of these splendid game birds.

Ducks, on account of the scarcity of sloughs and lakes, are not so plentiful, though Swan Lake on the north-east of us, offers sport in this that is absolutely unsurpassed anywhere.

To the big-game hunter the Valley offers splendid inducements; moose, jumper, and a possible elk or two can be grassed with very little trouble even by the novice in this branch of sport.

It is not at all necessary to penetrate into almost inaccessible parts of the mountains to grass a deer or moose. A few miles either way from the town will give sportsmen a reasonable chance of securing one of these animals.

To visiting sportsmen, we offer game of all kinds in season, fine scenery, and a sportsmen's welcome from members of that fraternity in the Valley.

Climate.

The climatic conditions of this Valley may be of interest.

The altitude is lower than that of western parts of Manitoba. We have also a singularly sheltered position. The Duck Mountains running along the south for a distance of seventy (70) miles,

are heavily timbered. The Porcupine Mountains on the north and west, also covered with tall dense timber, afford us ideal protection and make this truly a beautiful sheltered valley. These facts no doubt will show why the snow disappears fully a week earlier than in more open parts, and this means earlier seeding.

The writer has been here for nearly nine years, and in that time has not seen a blizzard such as other parts of our province experience each winter.

Spring commences about the 1st of April; some seasons, however, seeding is begun in March, the snow having entirely disappeared.

But spring scarcely puts in an appearance before it is followed by summer, and it is almost impossible to describe the delights of that pleasant season, with its long days and cool nights.

It is in this fact we find an explanation of the extraordinarily rapid growth of vegetation, which, under the influence of this long-continued sunshine, exceeds anything known in other latitudes. The soft-maple tree has been known to grow more than five feet in a single season.

The autumn season is one of the most delightful that can be imagined. It extends into the Month of November, snow sometimes not falling until December, giving the farmer the opportunity of finishing up his threshing, completing the marketing of his thousands of bushels of No. 1-Hard Wheat, and leaving him sufficient time to put his land in condition for the crop of the following year.

As for the winters, they entirely lose the dread with which timorous people have regarded them after a single experience.

It is difficult to obtain from the reading of a record of temperature any idea of the comforts or discomforts that prevail. It is well known that humidity is of equal importance, probably of greater importance, while the velocity of the wind is also no less important.

Here are found trees and wild flowers that do not grow in the southern part of our province, and experiments have proven that this is destined to be a fruit-growing district. Domestic fruits have invariably done well, our position, altitude, etc., as already described, accounting for this.

The Churches of Swan River Valley.

In churches and religious work, Swan Valley has travelled far since the days when one or two pioneer missionaries traversed it on foot or in the saddle visiting the scattered settlers, sharing their privations and gathering them on Sundays to some convenient shack for a religious service.

All honor to these men, for every right thinking person will admit that a country is made in its infancy by the men who labor for God and righteousness, not less than by the men who turn the first furrows, blaze the first trails, and guide the first municipal machine.

For a comparatively new settlement, the Valley is well supplied with religious services. There is scarcely a district where a settler may not find a church service and a Sunday school within easy reach.

Swan River may be regarded as the base for the religious work of the Valley.

Indeed, a stranger may be pardoned if he thinks it a city of churches.

On 5th Avenue are found the Methodist, Presbyterian, Baptist, and Anglican churches; on Main Street last year, the Roman Catholics erected a neat and commodious place of worship.

The four first mentioned churches date from the early days, and each is the home of a prosperous congregation. In Minitonas, Presbyterians and Methodists have well-finished churches, while for the present the Church of England holds service in the Methodist Church.

The Methodist Church is also represented by congregations at Thunderhill, Benito and Bowsman, and the Presbyterian minister at Durban covers a large field, having no less than five appointments. Each of the pastors of Swan River and Minitonas has one or more outside appointments.

It will thus be seen that the whole district is well covered and no one need hesitate to settle in the Valley through fear of being cut off from religious privileges.

It is expected that Methodist churches will be built this year at Bowsman and Benito, and Presbyterian churches at Kenville

and Durban. In connection with church work it may be stated here, that the Swan Valley branch of the Manitoba Sunday School Association is one of the most progressive and up-to-date in the province.

Public Institutions.

When the Swan Valley was thrown open for settlement in the year 1898 there was a great rush of hardy pioneers to secure possession of homesteads in this most fertile valley, and for the convenience of the settlers a sub-agency of the Dominion Lands



Farm Residence of J. G. A. Campbell, Minitonas

Office at Dauphin was opened in May, 1898, on the banks of the West Favel river, now generally referred to as "the Old Tent Town."

No better evidence of the activity and progressiveness of any community could be had than that furnished by the advances made in this district, which less than nine years ago had few inhabitants except Indians, was without a post office, school, municipal office or any other public institution save the land office, and to-day has a thriving population of about seven

thousand people, twenty-five public schools, two municipal offices, ten post offices, nine churches, a large agricultural hall, situated in its own grounds where a summer fair is annually held and a well equipped hospital with accommodation for eleven patients. An unusually large tract of the most fertile soil in the world, well supplied with wood and water at low prices originally attracted a large number of respected and progressive citizens, and each year the number steadily increases.

Educational Progress.

To the intending settler there is no matter more worthy of consideration than the provision made to educate his children. This is of vital importance to the welfare of the nation as well as the individual. Since Swan River Valley was first opened for settlement, seven years ago, vast strides have been made as providing accommodation for the rapidly growing school population. The Valley is now dotted with school-houses, almost all of which have been constructed after the latest designs approved by the Department of Education for the province.

There is not a community that is without its schoolhouse, easily accessible from all parts of the district. The present law requires that all teachers employed shall have adequate professional training at the Provincial Normal School, besides the necessary academic standing, before entering upon their duties. This ensures the efficiency of the schools.

In Swan River, the largest town and the natural centre of the Valley, there are at present four rooms in operation, all of which are well attended, the total enrollment in 1906 being nearly 200. The school was raised two years ago to the status of an intermediate school in which secondary work is carried on. This means that the high school is combined with the public school under one head. The enterprising school-board has spared no expense in erecting and equipping a modern and up-to-date building, and it is only a matter of a short time until Swan River will have its high school proper, offering educational advantages equal to any in the province.

In Conclusion.

Truthfully can we say—and without boasting—that no where in this great and prosperous Western Canada, can any portion lay claim to such prosperous and rapid growing towns as the Swan River Valley. A tribute only to the virtues and the advantages of this wonderful country.

Situated in the centre, in the heart of our valley, is Swan River, a beautiful town situated on the banks of the river from which it takes its name, a centre of trade and commerce where but eight years ago was forest and scrub, and here and there an Indian trail and a few mounds to mark the last resting place of departed braves.

Now it is a beautiful town, having over 700 of population, and soon, we trust, to be enjoying all the advantages of modern improvements secured in city life.

There are four general stores, two hardware stores, two drug stores, two chartered banks, two saddleries, two butcher shops, two hotels, furniture store, two implement shops, two blacksmith shops, one machinist, one jeweler, two barristers, three doctors, two veterinary surgeons and five churches, each a credit to their respective denomination.

The advantages afforded by the river has started one lumber mill here with door, window and sash manufacturing.

The residential portion of our town is truly a credit, the beautiful houses reflecting the truthful prosperity of our citizens.

Eleven miles to the south and east of Swan River is Minitonas, a town of over 300 of a population. Situated as it is in the heart of a good agricultural country, its future prosperity is assured. Two general stores, two implement shops, two livery, feed and sale barns, one hotel, one confectionery store, one planing mill and one blacksmith shop, show the prosperity and growth of Minitonas.

Nine miles north of Swan River is Bowsman, also situated in a first class agricultural country. Two general stores, one boarding house, one lumber mill and one implement shop contribute to the comforts of the surrounding settlers.

Running south and west from Swan River is the Thunder Hill extension of the C. N. R. On this branch there are three towns yet less than a year old, but possessing growth and prosperity of much older villages.

Kenville, nine miles west, has now one general store, one hardware store, one implement shop, blacksmith shop, butcher shop, boarding house and bank, and also a livery and feed stable.

Durban, nine miles from Kenville, the heart of the western portion of the valley, likewise has two chartered banks, one general store, one boarding house, one art gallery, one livery, feed and sale barn, blacksmith shop, hardware store and butcher shop. The future for Durban is an exceedingly bright one.

Benito, six miles west from Durban, has two general stores, one implement shop, one hardware store, one livery stable, boarding house and one butcher shop.

The rapid growth of our towns and the prosperity of the business, representatives may well confirm the merits of our valley.



Getting Ready for the Mill in Swan River Valley

ADVANTAGES OF THE SWAN RIVER VALLEY

1. Equable climate.
2. Rich, easily-worked soil.
3. Abundance of fuel and building material.
4. Excellent water.
5. Absolute freedom from blizzards.
6. Good roads.
7. Railway, banking and educational facilities.
8. Abundance of natural grasses.
9. "A multitude of great fishes."
10. Opportunities in dairying, bee-culture, fruit-raising and market gardening.
11. Opportunities for the investment of capital.
12. Good wages for mechanics and laborers.
13. Hospital, churches, elevators, mills, etc.
14. Free land for some; cheap land for all.

For Further Information Apply to

H. HARLEY

Dominion Land Agent, Swan River, Manitoba

OR

R. G. TAYLOR

Secretary Board of Trade, Swan River